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(11) EP 0 950 941 A3

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
06.09.2000 Bulletin 2000/36

(51) Int. Cl.⁷: G06F 1/00, G06F 12/14

(43) Date of publication A2:
20.10.1999 Bulletin 1999/42

(21) Application number: 98121065.1

(22) Date of filing: 05.11.1998

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

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(30) Priority: 18.03.1998 JP 6888198

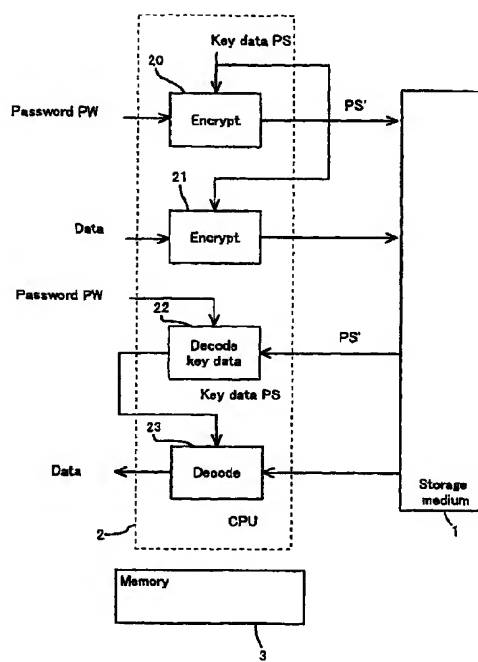
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(54) **Method of and apparatus for protecting data on storage medium and storage medium**

(57) Disclosed are a method and an apparatus for protecting data on a storage medium by encrypting the data to be recorded on the storage medium with a password. This method comprises a step of, generating, for changing key data on each memory unit by one password, the key data, thereafter encrypting the key data with the password and writing the encrypted data to the storage medium, and a step of encrypting the data with the key data and encrypted data to the storage medium. The method further comprises a step of reading the encrypted key data from the storage medium, a step of decoding the encrypted key data with the password, and a step of decoding the data on the storage medium with the decoded key data. The encryption is done by using the key data generated separately from the password, and it is therefore feasible to prevent the password from being analyzed by decoding a cipher text.

FIG. 1



EP 0 950 941 A3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 98 12 1065

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 July 2000	Examiner Moens, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 98 12 1065

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